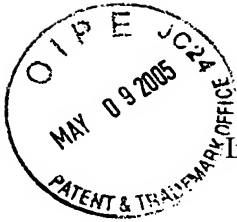


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1278-007



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT OPERATION

In re application of:

Peter John Rubie and Alan John Russell

Serial No.: 10/733,081

Group Art Unit: 3721

Filed: December 11, 2003

Examiner: Nathaniel C. Chukwurah

For: ROCK-BOLTING APPARATUS AND METHOD

New York, NY 10036

May 5, 2005

Mail Stop NON FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicants herein respond to the Office Action dated February 9, 2005 in the above identified patent application.

Although the Examiner found the subject matter of the claims to be allowable, Claim 1 was objected to on formal grounds and Claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraph. Applicants address these issues herein, respectfully requesting entry of the amendments set forth on the accompanying sheets and favorable consideration of the application based on the following remarks.

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on May 5, 2005 in an envelope addressed to:

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Kenneth F. Florek, Reg. No. 33,173